

Docket No.: 57454-280

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277
Tsukasa OOISHI : Confirmation Number: 5822
Application No.: 09/986,583 : Group Art Unit: 2133
Filed: November 09, 2001 : Allowed: October 15, 2004
Examiner: David Ton

For: SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DEVICE CAPABLE OF SELF-TESTING
INTERNAL POWER SUPPLY CURRENTS PROVIDED TO INTERNAL CIRCUITS
INTEGRATED ON CHIP

**COMMENTS RESPONSIVE TO STATEMENT OF
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 104(e)**

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The October 15, 2004 Notice of Allowability regarding the above-identified application included a Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Entry of that Statement into the record should not be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence by Applicants in the stated reasoning.

The Statement includes all of the allowed claims in a single rationale. The wording in the Statement seems to parallel claim 1 but does not precisely correspond to the language of that independent claim. For example, in lines 5 and 6 of item 2, the Statement reads "an internal power supply circuit, placed between a prescribed one of a plurality of internal circuits and a power supply interconnection for converting a level of an external power supply potential to the prescribed internal circuit." The quoted phrase is unclear in that it seemingly implies a "potential" is converted into a "circuit". By contrast, lines 10-14 of claim 1 actually recite "an internal power supply circuit, provided between a prescribed one of said plurality of internal circuits and said second power supply interconnection, for converting a level of said second external power supply potential to supply an internal power supply potential to said prescribed internal circuit."

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Later, the Statement refers to "a control circuit for conducting a self-test." Claim 1 does not specify a control circuit. Claim 1 specifies a test circuit. The other independent claims refer to a "control circuit," but the control circuit is separate from the test circuit that performs the test.

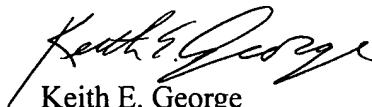
The language of the allowed claims is already of record in the case and is adequately clear. As shown above, the paraphrasing of the claims in the Statement may cause confusion, particularly to the extent that the Statement may differ from the proper interpretation of the actual language of allowed claims 1-28. Also, the claims differ as to language and scope, and it is submitted that each claim is independently patentable in its own right, not just for one general reason suggested by the Statement.

Furthermore, the claims in this application have been allowed in the first action on the merits, without any rejection or amendment. It is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be entitled the broadest reasonable interpretation and broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims and the supporting disclosure, without reference to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

To the extent necessary, if any, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
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